

# Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Vaccinations

WAC 296-823-130

## Summary

### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:

**To make the vaccination available to your employees so they are protected from the hepatitis B virus (HBV)**

#### **You must**

Make hepatitis B vaccination available to employees  
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Obtain a copy of the health care professional's written opinion for  
hepatitis B vaccination and provide it to the employee  
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# Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Vaccinations

WAC 296-823-130

## Rule

WAC 296-823-13005

### Make hepatitis B vaccination available to employees



#### Exemption:

- You aren't required to provide the hepatitis B vaccination series to employees who meet any of the following:
  - The employee has previously received the complete hepatitis B vaccination series
  - An antibody test has revealed that the employee is immune to hepatitis B
  - There are medical reasons not to give the vaccine.
- You aren't required to provide the hepatitis B vaccination series to employees assigned to provide first aid only as a secondary duty, when you do all of the following:
  - Make hepatitis B vaccination available to all unvaccinated first-aid providers who render assistance in any situation involving the presence of blood or OPIM.
    - Vaccination must be made available as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the incident.
  - Provide a reporting procedure that ensures all first-aid incidents that involve the presence of blood or OPIM are reported before the end of the work shift
  - Document first-aid incidents that involve blood or OPIM, include at least:
    - The names of all first-aid providers who rendered assistance
    - The time and date of the first-aid incident
    - A description of the first-aid incident.

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# Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Vaccinations

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## Rule

### WAC 296-823-13005 (Continued)

#### You must

- Make sure that the hepatitis B vaccination series is available to all employees who have occupational exposure and that it is:
  - Available at no cost to the employee
  - Available to the employee at a reasonable time and location
  - Administered by or under the supervision of a licensed physician or by another licensed health care professional
  - Provided according to recommendations of the United States Public Health Service that are current at the time these evaluations and procedures take place
  - Available to any employee who initially declines the vaccination but later decides to accept it while they are still covered by this chapter
  - Made available after the employee has received training required by this chapter and within 10 working days of initial assignment.



#### Link:

You can find more information about the United States Public Health Service recommendations for hepatitis B vaccination at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hepatitis/blindex.htm>.

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# Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) Vaccinations

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## Rule

### WAC 296-823-13005 (Continued)

#### You must

- Make sure participation in a prevaccination screening program for antibody status isn't a condition for receiving hepatitis B vaccination.
- Make sure that all laboratory tests are conducted by a laboratory licensed by the state or Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (Act) (CLIA).
- Make sure employees who decline the hepatitis B vaccination, offered by you, sign a form with this statement:

"I understand that due to my occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials I may be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, at no charge to myself. However, I decline hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B, a serious disease. If in the future I continue to have occupational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at no charge to me."



#### Helpful tool:

#### Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination Form

The declination form can help you document employees who have declined the hepatitis B vaccine. You can find a copy of this form in the Resources section of this chapter.

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## Rule

### WAC 296-823-13010

#### Obtain a copy of the health care professional's written opinion for hepatitis B vaccination and provide it to the employee

##### You must

- Obtain and provide the employee a copy of the evaluating health care professional's written opinion for hepatitis B vaccination within 15 days of the employee's evaluation.



##### Note:

- If the health care professional provides the written opinion directly to the employee, you don't need to do so.
- If the employee's personal health care professional completes the evaluation, you aren't required to obtain the health care professional's written opinion.

##### You must

- Make sure the health care professional's written opinion is limited to whether a hepatitis B vaccination is indicated and if the employee has received this vaccination
- Make sure that all other findings or diagnoses remain confidential and aren't included in the written report.



##### Reference:

- Requirements for the health care professional's written opinion on post-exposure evaluation can be found in WAC 296-823-16030.



##### Helpful tool:

##### Health Care Professional's Written Opinion for Post-exposure Evaluation and Health Care Provider's Written Opinion for Hepatitis B Vaccination

These forms are available for your use in the Resources section of this chapter.



# Notes

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